

shared, lesser duties in all other areas. The two chairmen consulted before finalizing significant decisions, such as the naming of divisional directors.

By its own description, the DNC has three major functions: (1) overseeing the Democratic presidential nominating process and staging the Democratic National Convention; (2) developing and communicating policy positions; and (3) helping to elect Democratic candidates at all levels of government. The finance division supports particularly the first and third of these functions. Though it has its own chairman, who serves both an honorific and an active function without pay, Fowler stated the DNC chairman is the ultimate head of the finance division, with final responsibility for its bottom line. He must pursue the finance division's mission of raising financial support for the operations of the DNC, including its convention and campaign support activities, while cultivating and promoting the relationship of the national party with its core financial supporters.

To cultivate, sustain and promote contributors, the DNC recognized various fund councils, divided along giving levels and, in some cases, certain demographic lines. As of 1995, entry level contributors were often solicited to groups such as the Saxophone Club and the Women's Leadership Forum. Individual donors able to contribute at least \$5,000 annually were recruited to the National Finance Council, while individual and business contributors within the \$10,000 to \$15,000 base level were solicited for the Democratic Business Council. The two highest councils were the trustees, who each contribute at least \$50,000 or raise at least \$100,000